

REMARKS

This application has been further reviewed in light of the Office Action dated August 17, 2006. Claims 1, 3, 4, 12 to 16, 18, 19, 27 to 30, 38 to 41, 43, 46 and 47 remain pending in the application, with Claims 2, 5, 7 to 11, 17, 20, 22 to 26, 31, 33 to 37 and 42 having been canceled herein. Claims 1, 12, 16, 27, 38, 43, 46 and 47 are the independent claims. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 5, 16, 20, 31, 42, 46 and 47 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,714,977 (Fowler), Claims 2 to 4, 7 to 11, 17 to 19, 22 to 26 and 33 to 37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Fowler in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,851,092 (Motoyama), and Claims 12 to 15, 27 to 30, 38 to 41 and 43 were rejected under § 103(a) over Fowler in view of U.S. Publication No. 2004/0267892 (Kikinis). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

According to the invention, one of a plurality of statuses of a device (e.g., a printer) are obtained and an email message is generated and transmitted to a destination corresponding to the status. In order to know what destination to send the email message to, destination information is stored in the device, where a different destination corresponds respectively to each one of the plurality of statuses. In a slightly different aspect, if an email is received from a device indicating a status of the device, a reply may be sent to a destination corresponding to the status. In this aspect, a plurality of reply destinations corresponding to the plurality of statuses are registered.

With specific reference to the claims, amended independent Claim 1 is directed to a data transfer processing apparatus which controls data transfer in a device, comprising a status obtaining unit that obtains status information about one of a plurality of

statuses of said device, a message obtaining unit that obtains a message according to the status information obtained by said status obtaining unit, a destination information storage unit that stores destination information indicating each of a plurality of destinations of electronic mail, the plurality of destinations being different from each other and corresponding respectively to one of the plurality of statuses of said device, a transmission data generation unit that generates transmission data according to the message obtained by said message obtaining unit and according to the destination information indicating one of the plurality of destinations corresponding to the one of the plurality of statuses of said device, an electronic mail transmission unit that transmits as electronic mail the transmission data generated by said transmission data generation unit to the destination address corresponding to the obtained status, a data transmission unit that transmits, to the an external apparatus via a network, destination setting screen data that causes a web browser of the external apparatus to display a setting screen for setting destination information indicating the destination of electronic mail corresponding to each of the plurality of statuses of said device, and a destination information reception unit that receives the destination information set with the setting screen from the external apparatus via the network, wherein said destination information storage unit stores the destination information received by said destination information reception unit.

Claims 16, 46 and 47 are device, method and computer medium claims, respectively, that substantially correspond to Claim 1.

The applied art, alone or in any permissible combination, is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of Claims 1, 16, 46 and 47, and particularly, is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the feature of a device generating transmission data

according to a message obtained according to one of a plurality of obtained statuses of the device, and according to destination information indicating one of a plurality of destinations corresponding to the one of the plurality of statuses of the device, and transmitting an electronic mail of the generated data to the destination address corresponding to the obtained status.

Fowler is merely seen to disclose a system for monitoring a space (e.g., a room) utilizing sensors. An alarm can be sent over the internet and an HTML (web) interface can be used set-up the monitoring system, including setting up a primary and a secondary email address that a report can be sent to. However, both the primary and secondary addresses are for the same status, and Applicant fails to see anything in Fowler that discloses or to suggests that a plurality of destinations correspond to each one of a plurality of statuses, or that an email message is generated and sent to a particular destination corresponding to the status. Thus, Fowler is not seen to anticipate the claims.

Motoyama is seen to disclose that a computer connected to an external apparatus transmits electronic mail to an e-mail address. However, Motoyama is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the features of, a device generating transmission data according to a message obtained according to one of a plurality of obtained statuses of the device, and according to destination information indicating one of a plurality of destinations corresponding to the one of the plurality of statuses of the device, and transmitting an electronic mail of the generated data to the destination address corresponding to the obtained status.

Kikinis is not seen to teach anything that, when combined with Fowler and/or Motoyama, overcomes their deficiencies. Rather, Kikinis merely discloses that a

received e-mail is searched for certain words or phrases that match words or phrases stored in a look-up table. However, Kikinis is not seen to add anything that, when combined with Fowler and/or Motoyama, would have resulted in the feature of a device generating transmission data according to a message obtained according to one of a plurality of obtained statuses of the device, and according to destination information indicating one of a plurality of destinations corresponding to the one of the plurality of statuses of the device, and transmitting an electronic mail of the generated data to the destination address corresponding to the obtained status.

In view of the foregoing, independent Claims 1, 16, 46 and 47, as well as the claims dependent therefrom, are believed to be allowable.

Claim 12 is directed to another, related, aspect of the invention and is a data transfer processing apparatus which controls data transfer in a device, comprising a status obtaining unit that obtains status information about one of a plurality of statuses of said device, a message obtaining unit that obtains a message according to the status information obtained by said status obtaining unit, a registration unit that registers reply destination information indicating each of a plurality of reply destinations of electronic mail different from a source of the electronic mail, the plurality of reply destinations being different from each other and corresponding to the respective plurality of statuses of said device, a transmission data generation unit that generates transmission data according to the message obtained by said message obtaining unit, according to destination information indicating a destination of electronic mail, and according to the reply destination information indicating one of the plurality of reply destinations corresponding to the one of the plurality of statuses of said device, wherein the generated transmission data includes the destination

information and the reply destination information, and an electronic mail transmission unit that transmits as electronic mail the transmission data generated by said transmission data generation unit.

Claims 27, 38 and 43 are device, method, and computer medium claims, respectively, that substantially correspond to Claim 12.

The applied art is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of Claims 12, 27, 38 and 43, and in particular, is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the feature of a device registering reply destination information indicating each of a plurality of reply destinations of electronic mail different from a source of the electronic mail, the plurality of reply destinations being different from each other and corresponding to the respective plurality of statuses of the device, and transmitting an electronic mail that includes a message obtained according to one of a plurality of statuses of the device.

As discussed above, none of Fowler, Motoyama or Kikinis are seen to disclose anything with regard to transmitting message to a destination, or a reply destination for that matter, to one of a plurality of reply destinations each corresponding to one of a plurality of statuses of the device. Accordingly, Claims 12, 27, 28 and 42, as well as the claims dependent therefrom, are believed to be allowable.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

No other matters having been raised, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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